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West Virginia NRCS News and Views

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
February 2009

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Each fall, federal employees in Monongalia and Preston Counties are asked to contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). NRCS employees are also leading the way with donating their time to causes they believe in.

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Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture; Amy Bolyard, Supervisory Contract Specialist

[...More Info](#)

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Personnel Updates, HR Minute.

To submit news items for the May *News and Views*, please send an e-mail message to [Carol Lagodich](#).

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain and improve our natural resources and environment.

NRCS West Virginia State Office
75 High Street, Room 301, Morgantown, WV 26505
304-284-7540 | fax 304-284-4839
<http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Kevin Wickey, West Virginia State Conservationist

NRCS field offices are located throughout West Virginia
Visit <http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/contact/> for addresses and phone numbers.

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Message from Kevin Wickey

February is still winter – what a great time of the year!! Find ways to enjoy it. People from the upper Midwest know that to get through winter, you have to embrace it, especially mentally. Think positive.

In a funny way, this applies to us (NRCS here in WV) in our budget situation. We're tight, we have more work, we have fewer staff, but we have jobs that pay us well. We have meaningful work that helps people and the environment. We have an agency that invests in our capabilities and that presents us with lots of upward opportunities. We have lots of partners. So let's keep thinking positive. It helps.

Kevin Wickey
State Conservationist
West Virginia

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From the Field

Mountain Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D)

Charlotte Christmas Show



Mountain RC&D once again served as fiscal managers for the WV Country Store, Charlotte Christmas Show Project which was held during the 2008 Thanksgiving period. 52 West Virginia Agri-Tourism vendors were represented at this year's show with product sales topping the \$43,000 mark.

Ashland Wastewater Project



January 12, 2009 saw the official groundbreaking ceremony for the Ashland Project. NRCS Assistant State Conservationist Greg Stone represented our agency; WV Cabinet Secretary Randy Huffman was present for the WV DEP along with staff representatives from Senator Jay Rockefeller, Congressman Nick Joe Rahall, and Governor Joe Manchin.

Project costs will be in excess of \$600,000, but for a community that has a fecal contamination of 54 upstream and over 200,000 downstream. VersaCon Inc will begin construction as soon as equipment can be moved on site.

For more information contact [Mike Gasper](#)

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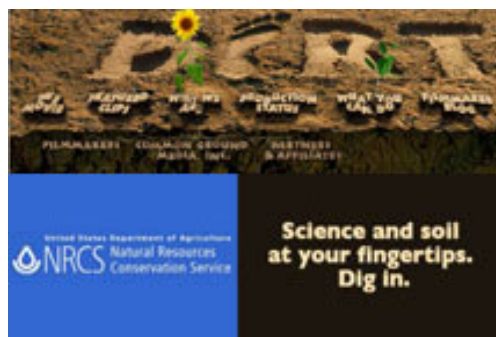
Bits and Pieces

West Virginia NRCS FY 08 Farm Bill Accomplishments

Program	All contracts	Acres	Financial Assistance Amount
Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA)	8	200	\$274,933
Conservation Security Program CSP (existing contracts)	22	2,681	\$40,723
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)	473	40,792	\$8,081,783
Farm and Ranch Land Protection Program (FRPP)	4	1,250	\$2,068,000
Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)	6	549	\$1,359,194
Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)	34	5,460	\$469,995
Total	547	50,807	\$12,294,628

Dirt! The Movie

A documentary on soil was one of the feature selections at the 2009 Sundance film festival.



Dirt! The Movie is an insightful and timely film that tells the story of the glorious and unappreciated material beneath our feet. One teaspoon of dirt contains a billion organisms working in remarkable balance to maintain and

sustain a series of complex, thriving
communities that impact our daily lives.

Inspired by William Bryant Logan's acclaimed book *Dirt: The Ecstatic Skin of the Earth*, *Dirt! The Movie* takes a humorous and substantial look into the history and current state of the living organic matter that we come from and will later return to. An eclectic group of participants ranging from biologists to prisoners incarcerated on Rikers Island offer answers to problems and inspire us to clean up the mess that we've created. *Dirt! The Movie* will make you want to get dirty.

Go to <http://dirtthemovie.org> for more information.

Political statements in the movie may be different than USDA policy.

WV SWCS

Submitted by Jackie Byars

The Executive Committee wants to send some members to the International Conference in Dearborn, MI this year. Anyone interesting in attending the meeting should contact Bill Harris. The meeting is usually held the third week of July.

Bill Harris, Soil Conservationist

(304) 487-1404 x 101

bill.harris@wv.usda.gov

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Combined Federal Campaign

Lead the Way Monongalia and Preston Counties

Each fall, federal employees in Monongalia and Preston Counties are asked to contribute to the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). This year, generous NRCS employees surpassed last years contributions by almost \$1,000.



The CFC is the annual national fundraising drive conducted by Federal employees. Federal workers have participated in a national workplace giving effort for over 50 years. It is the largest, most successful workplace fundraising model in the world. The campaign benefits hundreds of local, national, and international charities that support a wide range of causes.

The 2008 theme was *lead the way*. NRCS employees are leading the way with donating their time to causes they believe in. Some employees are featured below.



Tim Prescott

GIS Specialist, MLRA Region 13

President, West Virginia Botanic Garden (WVBG)

The West Virginia Botanic Garden is a community resource, located in Morgantown, in which visitors can enjoy native plants in a variety of settings and in harmony with nature. As president of this entirely volunteer organization, Tim is involved

with community outreach, fundraising, and site development and maintenance.

Begun as only a dream in 2000, the WVBG is on its way to becoming a reality on the 82-acre former Tibbs Run Reservoir property off the Tyrone Road in Monongalia County, WV. The former 15-acre basin will be transformed into two smaller pools with islands and aquatic plant displays. The old water works, still present, will stand as a link to the past.

The WVBG will feature a large variety of plants appropriate to the region's climate and soils in both designed and natural settings. Visitors will learn from these gardens in every season of the year. Most of the land is wooded, and much will remain undisturbed except for trail construction and some plant enhancement. Find out more about the West Virginia Botanic Garden at <http://www.wvbg.org/index.html>.

JR Wolfe

WV NRCS: Farm Bill Program Specialist



Morgantown North Rotary: Youth Exchange Program

Coordinator

Northern WV District Rotary: Group Study Exchange, Youth Exchange Committee, Ambassadorial Scholar Committee

JR volunteers through his Rotary Club to support activities in the Morgantown area such as the Community Kitchen at the Presbyterian Church on Wiley Street, the Tugboat Depot playground on the trail in Star City, and the Morgantown Area Youth Services Project for at-risk teens.

JR's favorite service project is the work his club does in Guatemala. The efforts there are to provide sources of clean drinking water, free dental care, and to help children receive an education. JR has made 5 trips to Guatemala to support these efforts. For more information, go to http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/06feb_nv/meet.html

**TJ Burr**

Civil Engineer, NRCS State Office

Lt Col, US Air Force Reserves

TJ continues to serve in the Air Force Reserves as a volunteer reservist. He provides technical engineering services for the Air Force Surgeon General for planning, design, and construction of military medical facilities.

Most recently, he worked on a \$60 million hospital addition at Langley AFB, Virginia. This addition will double the size of the existing hospital to better serve all military beneficiaries in the area. He backfilled the active duty project engineer for one week while he was away on a school tour. Langley AFB is the home of the first fighter wing flying the F-22 Raptors. TJ doesn't get to fly these awesome machines, but he helps support the mission by improving access to healthcare for pilots and their dependents.

For more information (and awesome pictures), visit:

<http://www.langley.af.mil/photos/index.asp?galleryID=1262>

Pat Bowen

WV State Resource Conservationist

Monongalia County Friends of Scouting Campaign Chairman

Boy Scout Troop 52 Troop Committee Chairman

Pat Bowen volunteers for the Mountaineer Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Pat was a Cub Scout and Boy Scout up through the Eagle Scout Rank. He knows what Boy Scouting does for helping boys become grown up men and good citizens. Pat serves as the Friends of Scouting Campaign Chairman for Monongalia County and as an adult scouter as Troop Committee Chairman for Boy Scout Troop

52 sponsored by the Avery United Methodist Church in Cheat Lake.



Steve Carpenter

WV State Soil Scientist/MO-13 Staff Leader

Boy Scout Troop 65 Committee

Steve serves on the Troop 65 Committee. The troop committee provides oversight and support for the Scoutmaster and assists the troop with budgets, activities, transportation, and boards of honor. His son, George, is an Eagle Scout in Troop 65 and Steve believes that the Boy Scouts of America is one of the best programs for developing young men in the country. Troop 65 is affiliated with the Suncrest United Methodist church. The Troop 65 committee meets monthly.



Peg Reese

Farm Bill Program Specialist

First Coordinator for WV NRCS Earth Team

Peg was the first coordinator for WV NRCS Earth Team and has recruited many volunteers through her career. Peg expressed her feelings towards volunteering and contributing to organizations.

Who benefits most when you give your time or money to a charitable organization? The surprising answer is that you do!

A functional magnetic resonance study showed that charitable giving stimulates the brain's pleasure center. Many other studies show that giving and volunteering improve physical health and happiness.

People who give money charitably are 43 percent more likely to say they are "very happy" than nongivers and 25 percent more likely than nongivers to say their health is excellent or very good.

**Barbara Broxterman**

Agricultural Engineer

Rotary and church volunteer

Barbara works with various volunteer groups and at her church, but is most proud of my membership in Morgantown North Rotary Club, which provides services and contributions to the local community and areas throughout the world. This past year, she volunteered, with the club, providing meals at the downtown Soup Kitchen, collected coats and supplies for the Morgantown Area Youth Services Area Program (MAYSAP), worked at the "Pot" Shop at WVU Creative Arts Center selling coffee directly from Guatemala in addition to assisting with Multiphasic Blood Testing. All of the contributions or proceeds go to local charities or overseas. Rotary Clubs all over the world assist with clean water in central Africa, providing dental or health care for other third world countries or providing a market place for their goods. The Rotary Foundation is the main source of income for the Polio Plus Partners, which strive to one day eliminate Polio around the world.

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Conservation Education

NRCS Supports an Eagle Scout Service Project

West Virginia Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) helped Andrew Pender earn the Eagle Scout rank, the highest advancement rank in Scouting. Isaac Wolford, (Agronomist) coordinated technical assistance with the Appalachian Plant Materials Center, John Vandevender, (Appalachian Plant Materials Center Manager), and Pat Bowen (State Resource Conservationist).

Andrew wanted to do something involving conservation•solving a local problem, and providing public benefit for his Eagle Scout Service Project. It also had to be a project that he provided the leadership for and carried out through leading others. He contacted the Morgantown Board of Parks and Recreation and found a need for plants that could be planted at the base of the slope of the river bank near the Hazel Ruby McQuain Riverside Park to stabilize the slope and make it more aesthetically pleasing, and easier to maintain. Andrew contacted Isaac Wolford for ideas. Wolford recommended a species of low bush that thrives in wet areas and is native to rivers in the eastern US. He recommended the Panbowl River Alder, also known ironically as the Hazel River Alder, given the namesake of the river park and amphitheater. After approval from the boards review committee, Andrew got Troop 52 of the Avery United Methodist Church and the Mountaineer Area Council for BSA approval of his project.

Through Wolford, Andrew was able to get the tree seedlings donated by the Appalachian Plant Materials Center near Alderson WV. His project required him to organize a team of boy scouts to travel to Alderson to harvest and prepare the 3 year old seedlings for transplant to the riverfront. He and his group met Vandevender, learned about the plant materials program and the center and proceeded to harvest the trees. It took this group 12 hours on Saturday to get the plants back to Morgantown.

On Sunday, the weather was snowy, windy, and cold. as the scouts and supporters arrived to help install his project. A larger group of 25 scouts and supporting parents did a trash clean up of the river bank, and planted over 1,000 of the river alders, marking most with survey tape. Pat Bowen, chairman of Boy Scout Troop 52 Parent Committee served as the troop leader during the project.

The trees will come out of dormancy in the spring and sprout and grow into a dense rows of rooted bushes which will protect and beautify the bank.

The cultivar 'Panbowl' was released by the Appalachian Plant Materials Center in 2007. River alder is used predominantly for streambank stabilization and wetland restoration. It is also a critical cover component of woodcock habitat. River alder is a nitrogen-fixing, thicket-forming shrub or small tree with dark, green foliage. It is native to the United States. It is suitable for streambank stabilization because of its flexible stems and fibrous root system. River alder reaches mature height of 8-12 feet in 10 years. For more information on 'Panbowl' River Alder, *Alnus serrulata*, go to <http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/pmc/07aprAlder.html>.

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Useful Links**Integrated Data for Enterprise Analysis (IDEA) Reports Available on my.NRCS**

Submitted by Peg Reese

IDEA reports are the new agency resource for reports and maps for planning, financial and natural resources data. IDEA has five planning and implementation and quality assurance reports and maps available that relate to practice data from the NCP.

IDEA is different from PRS because it enables you to find multiple years, programs, practices and locations in one report. IDEA has a map feature that also allows you to see practice point data at a county or service center level.

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) Colorado Federation FEEA Scholarship

Submitted by Peg Reese

The FEEA Scholarship Program is for current civilian federal employees and their dependent family members (spouse/child). Adult children and other relatives are eligible if claimed on the sponsoring employee's tax return. <http://www.feea.org/>

2007 State and County Profiles

Submitted by Pam Yost

Census of Ag state and county profiles are now available at:

http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2007/Online_Highlights/

[County_Profiles/index.asp](#)

Summary:

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture says West Virginia has the highest percentage of family-owned farms in the nation. According to the department's census, the number of family farms in the state grew by 2,626 between 2002 and 2007 to 22,488.
- The increase follows a rise in the overall number of farms in West Virginia.
- During the census period, the total number of farms grew by 2,806 to 23,618.
- But, the size of those farms decreased from 172 acres to 157 acres.
- The census also shows the average age of farmers increased by two years to 58.
- The census was conducted last year and covers a five-year period.

Source: <http://www.whsv.com/westvirginiaap/headlines/39164302.html>

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Meet . . .



Secretary of Agriculture
Tom Vilsack

Tom Vilsack was sworn in as the 30th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on January 21, 2009. Appointed by President Barack Obama, Vilsack received unanimous support for his confirmation by the U.S. Senate. Vilsack was raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

For more information, go to http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/s.7_0_A/7_0_1OB?contentidonly=true&contentid=bios_vilsack.xml



Amy Bolyard
Supervisory Contract Specialist

A little about me...

I spent the first 10 years of my life in a suburb of Washington, DC until my dad decided to move us to West Virginia (my parent's were both born/raised in Preston County) to take a job as Contract Specialist for the Department of Energy here in Morgantown. Being the mature 10 year old that I was, I through a temper tantrum and didn't speak to him for about a month. Once we got to WV and settled in, I loved it here. I can't really imagine living anywhere else.... unless maybe there is a beach involved and round the clock margarita service.

I am getting married on May 30th to a high school sweetheart, Chad Stonebraker.

Chad is a Senior CADD Technician for Gannett Fleming, Inc. In addition to becoming a wife, I am very excited about becoming a Step-mom. Chad has a 7 year-old son, Bryson. Chad and I built a new home in Bruceton Mills last summer and we moved into our house in September.

Work life...

I started working for the Federal Government in May 1997 as a summer-hire at the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in Morgantown. I was hired through their Student Temporary Employment Program (STEP) to work in the Health Effects Laboratory Division/Exposure Assessment Branch (HELD/EAB) as an Office Automation Assistant.

In fall 1997, I went back to WVU for my 4th year of undergraduate studies. I also went from NIOSH summer-hire to NIOSH contractor employee as a Data Entry Clerk. The following spring I was hired back as a summer STEP employee. In October 1998 I was selected to work in the Office of the Director. I graduated from WVU in May 1999 with a Bachelors of Science in Secondary Education- Social Studies.

In August 2000, after a year off from college, I went back to WVU to get my Masters in Business Administration. I was also converted from a term appointment to a Student Career Employment Program (SCEP) employee at work. This change brought on several new duties... one of which started my government purchasing career. I made the credit card purchases for the Division Director's staff and was the designated card holder at year-end for the entire Division. I also reviewed all services and supply requisitions for the division and routed them for final approval and execution.

In December 2002, I received my MBA and HELD converted me from a SCEP employee to a full-time permanent employee. Wanting to move up and do more with my career, I decided to start applying for other federal jobs. Finally in March 2004 a Contract Specialist position opened up at NRCS. After I finished my interview with Bill Doerr, I was certain there was no way I was going to get this job... well I guess you know how it turned out.

I don't think growing up I ever uttered the words "when I grow up I want to be a federal employee," but I am glad this is the path I chose. June 2009 will be my 5 year anniversary with NRCS. My career here has been a pretty interesting ride so far... and I am looking forward to seeing where it goes from here.

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Personnel Updates

(Submitted by Karen Fitchett as of Jan 27, 2009)

Name	From	To
Hinson, Heather	Reassignment NRCS-Texas	Farm Bill Specialist State Office
Bailey, Norman	WVCA	RC&D Coord, Little Kanawha RC&D, Waverly, WV
Cox, John	District Conservationist Gassaway Field Office	Retirement
Meierdierks, Susan	Editor, NSSC, Lincoln, NB	Retirement

Contribution Agreement WVDOF Employees

Submitted by Barbara A. McWhorter, NRCS Staff Forester

Three new WVDOF employees reported to work in NRCS Field Offices on January 5, 2009 through a contribution agreement between NRCS and WVDOF:

- Tyler Pitzulu - Gassaway FO
- Thomas Wilsoncroft - Mount Clare FO
- Emma Pemberton - Petersburg FO



HR Minute

Submitted by Diana Bokoch

- To refresh you on the use of leave, the following are Excerpts from GM 360-415:

Any type of leave used in excess of three consecutive workdays must be requested on OPM Form 71, Request for Leave or Approved Absence form.

- Approval of leave is a discretionary matter reserved to the supervisor. The taking of leave is not an absolute right afforded an employee, but is conditioned on the needs of the Federal Service.
- Employees should obtain advanced authorization for annual leave.
- When the absence is a result of an emergency, employees must notify their supervisory, or other appropriate official with delegated authority to approve leave, as soon as possible, but no later than the start of core time.
- The maximum amount of annual leave employees may carry forward from one leave year to the next is 240 hours.
- Sick leave for prearranged medical, dental, or optical examination or treatment should be requested in advance.
- An employee who becomes ill is responsible for notifying his or her supervisor or other appropriate official delegated with authority to approve leave as soon as practicable, but no later than the start of core time. If the employee is incapacitated, another individual may notify the appropriate supervisor.
- Any employee may be requested to submit documentation for absences in excess of three consecutive workdays. Such documentation must be submitted to the supervisor within 15 days from the supervisor's request.
- Medical documentation must state the nature of the condition, that the employee is incapacitated for duty, and the duration of the incapacitation.
- Contact the Human Resources Department if you need information on the Family and Medical Leave Act, sick leave for family members, leave for parental purposes, military leave, leave without pay or excused absences.

Favorite quotes:

Ninety percent of success is showing up.

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

Phone Directory

An updated phone directory is available at <http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/employeeDirectory/app?agency=nrsc&state=vv>

Contact information may be found by searching on the employee name, city, all employees in the state, or by Service Center.

If your phone number or contact information is missing or incorrect, go to <https://icams.usda.gov/> (password required) and update your personal information.

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West Virginia's Civil Rights



WV NRCS Civil Rights Advisory Committee

“Equality For All People And Programs”

From Left to Right: Sarah Fitzwater (American Indian/Alaska Native Program Manager), Becky Bowers (East Area Member), Debbie Chase (State Office Member), Marvin Kerr (CRAC Chair and Black Emphasis Program Manager), Crystle Buchanan (Vice Chair and Disability Emphasis Program Manager), Heather Hinson (Disability Emphasis Program Manager), Carol Lagodich (Federal Women's Program Manager), TJ Burr (Recording Secretary and Veterans Special Emphasis Program Manager), Charlotte Elliot-Friend (Advisor), Eileen O'Neil (Asian American/Pacific Islander Special Emphasis Program Manager), Diana Bokoch (Advisor), Dustin Adkins (South Area Member). Not pictured Katie Fitzsimmons (West Area Member).



February is Black History Month

To commemorate and celebrate the contributions to our nation made by people of African descent, American historian Carter G. Woodson established Black History Week. The first celebration occurred on Feb. 12, 1926.

For many years, the second week of February was set aside for this celebration to coincide with the birthdays of abolitionist/editor Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the week was expanded into Black History Month. Each year, U.S. presidents proclaim February as National African-American History Month.

Go to <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/>

[facts_for_features_special_editions/013007.html](https://www.facts_for_features_special_editions/013007.html) for U.S. Census Bureau Black History information.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

He was America's Foremost Civil Rights Leader

Submitted by Marvin Kerr

A gifted orator and leader, Dr. King was the predominant voice of the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s. His non-violent protests and his eloquent speeches for social justice won the support of millions of Americans.

1. King was born Michael King Jr., Jan. 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Ga. Five years later, King's father changed both their names to Martin Luther, after the Reformation leader.
2. King skipped the ninth and 12th grades and entered Morehouse College at age 15.
3. When King received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, he was the youngest man ever to receive the honor. At 35, King was also only the second American and the third black man to receive the award. Ralph Bunche was the first (1950), and Albert Luthuli (1960) was the second.
4. King had originally planned to become a doctor. Instead, he majored in sociology, graduated from Morehouse College with a B.A., then entered Crozer Theological Seminary. Both King's father and maternal grandfather were ministers. King was ordained a Baptist minister in 1948.
5. King went by the nickname M.L.
6. King was successful in getting the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 passed in Congress. These rights were pivotal in reversing discrimination perpetrated through Jim Crow laws and grandfather clauses. The Civil Rights Act prohibited discrimination in public places, called for the integration of public schools and public facilities and made discrimination in employment

practices illegal. The Voting Rights Act outlawed literacy tests and poll taxes that had prevented African Americans from having a voice in the voting process.

7. King authored six books. The titles include *Stride Toward Freedom*, a story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott; *The Measure of a Man* and *Strength to Love*, selected sermons; *Why We Can't Wait*, the story of the Birmingham campaign; *'Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?*, *The Trumpet of Conscience*, and reflections on the nuclear arms race and other contemporary world issues.

8. King and his wife Coretta Scott had four children. From oldest to youngest, they are: Yolanda Denise, Martin Luther III, Dexter Scott and Bernice Albertine.

9. King was assassinated April 4, 1968. James Earl Ray was convicted of the killing and sentenced to 99 years in jail. Ray, an escaped convict, pleaded guilty to the crime in March 1969. He died in 1998.

10. Coretta Scott King passed away Jan. 30, 2006. Mrs. King championed her husband's causes and was an important and influential leader in her own right. Her body lay in the rotunda of the Georgia Capitol, becoming the first woman and the first African American to receive that honor. George W. Bush and three former Presidents attended her funeral, praising her lifetime of dedication to the civil rights movement.



Women's History Month: March 2009

2009 Theme: Women Taking the Lead to Save our Planet

This year the National Women's History Project honors women who have taken the lead in the environmental or "green" movement. Rachel Carson, the founder of the contemporary environmental movement, is featured as the iconic model of the theme. The 2009 Honorees includes biologist, a worm farmer, forester, Environmental Education Specialist, Environmental Engineer or and others whose lives show exceptional vision and leadership to save our planet. <http://www.nwhp.org/whm/>

WV Women's History Quiz

What do you know about the history of some WV employees? All these women were featured in recent *News and Views*. The answers are at the bottom of the page.

- Who climbed Briery Mountain at Camp Dawson?
- Who has a Masters in Science Forestry?
- Who served during the first Gulf War?
- Who has a Masters in Business Administration?
- Who coordinated the NRCS display at the WV State Fair?
- Who is the American Indian Alaska Native SEPM?
- Who received the Soil and Water Conservation Society's 2008 Fellow Award?
- Who is a natural horse relationist?

History of Women's History Month

National Women's History Month's roots go back to March 8, 1857, when women from New York City factories staged a protest over working conditions.

International Women's Day was first observed in 1909, but it wasn't until 1981 that Congress established National Women's History Week to be commemorated the second week of March. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month. Every year since, Congress has passed a resolution for Women's History Month, and the president has issued a proclamation.

Women's Census Information

The U. S. Census Bureau compiled information on women's earning and education.

Earnings: \$34,278 •The median annual earnings of women 16 or older who worked year-round, full time, in 2007, up from \$33,648 in 2006 (after adjusting for inflation). Women earned 77.5 cents for every \$1 earned by men.

Source: 2007 American Community Survey <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/>

[releases/archives/income_wealth/012528.html](http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/09feb_nv/crac.html#releases/archives/income_wealth/012528.html)

Education: 33%•Percent of women 25 to 29 who had attained a bachelor's degree or higher in 2007, which exceeded that of men in this age range (26 percent).

Source: Educational Attainment in the United States: 2007 <http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/education/011196.html>.

928,000 is the projected number of bachelor's degrees that will be awarded to women in the 2008-09 school year. Women are also projected to earn 391,000 master's degrees during this period. Women would, therefore, earn 58 percent of the bachelor's and 60 percent of the master's degrees awarded during this school year. In addition, women would earn nearly 50 percent of first-professional degrees, such as law and medical.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics, Projections of Education Statistics to 2017 <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2008078>.

For more census numbers go to http://www.census.gov/Press-Release/www/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/013129.html

WV Women's History Quiz Answers

Who climbed Briery Mountain at Camp Dawson?

Diana Bokoch, Human Resource Manager, Morgantown, WV

http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/08nov_nv/meet.html

Who has a Masters in Science Forestry?

Heather Hinson, Toolkit Coordinator/Farm Bill Specialist,

Morgantown, WV

http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/08nov_nv/meet.html

Who served during the first Gulf War?

Penny Sheeler, Administrative Assistant, East Area

http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/08aug_nv/meet.html

Who has a Masters in Business Administration?

Amy Bolyard, Supervisory Contract Specialist, Morgantown

http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/09feb_nv/meet.html

Who coordinated the NRCS display at the WV State Fair?

Katy McBride, Soil Conservationist, Lewisburg Service Center

http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/08nov_nv/fair.html

Who is the American Indian Alaska Native SEPM?

Sarah Fitzwater, Soil Conservationist, Keyser Service Center

http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/08nov_nv/crac.html

Who received the Soil and Water Conservation Society's 2008 Fellow Award?

Peg Reese, Farm Bill Program Specialist, Morgantown

http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/08aug_nv/peg.html

Who is a natural horse relationist?

Barbara Broxterman, Agricultural Engineer, Morgantown

http://www.wv.nrcs.usda.gov/news/08aug_nv/bits.html

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